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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application Of:

Group Art Unit: 1623

Yanxiang CAO et.al.

Serial No.: 09/738,892

Docket No. 003848.00059

Filed: December 18, 2000

For: METHODS OF cRNA SYNTHESIS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-42 and add new claims 43-77 prior to calculating the filing fee and examining the application.

43. (New) A method for analyzing a population of RNA comprising the steps of:

producing a population of cDNA from a population of RNA, wherein said method employs a primer having a first portion which is complementary to a plurality of RNA molecules in said population, and a second portion comprising a promoter sequence, wherein the first portion is 3' to said second portion;

synthesizing second strand cDNA complementary to said population of first strand cDNA by extending random oligomers, to form a population of double stranded cDNA;

creating a population of cRNA from said double stranded cDNA;

hybridizing the population of cRNA to an array; and

analyzing a resulting hybridization pattern.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein said population of RNA comprises poly(A+) RNA.

45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein said poly(A+) RNA comprises mRNA.

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